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"(b) In the year 1953 a series of five talks in English and regional languages on Harijan Welfare Work was broadcast. The English talk was broadcast by the Director of Harijan Welfare and the talks in the regional languages by other officers. The Minister for Animal Husbandry did not broadcast any talk in 1953 on the subject."

Opening of a Local Fund Hospital at Pazhayangadi.

* 274 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorandum, dated 10th September 1953 from Sri K. P. Gopalan, M.L.A., requesting the Government to open a Local Fund Hospital at Pazhayangadi; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) A copy of the memorandum has been communicated to the Special Officer, Malabar District Board, for necessary action. The Member has already been informed on 30th September 1953 that it is the primary responsibility of the District Board concerned to provide medical facilities in the rural areas and that therefore the Malabar District Board was being asked to take necessary action in the matter."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that the Malabar District Board has stated that no funds are available with them, will the Government be pleased to sanction a grant to the District Board to enable them to open a dispensary at this place? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the District Board may retrench in some other directions and find the money for this purpose."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, since the Government are well aware of the monetary position, namely, the bankrupt condition of the Malabar District Board, is it one of the devices adopted to bury this scheme that the demand for a hospital has been referred to the District Board? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the Government are showing special consideration to the Malabar district in several matters."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Sir, just as the Government have accepted responsibility for the highways realising that the District Boards have no funds to maintain them, will the Government also take away the responsibility for maintaining Public Health also from the District Board or provide them funds? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, there is no such proposal at present."

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Sri P. SELVARAJ :—" Sir, when there is a general demand that Local Fund hospitals should be taken over by the State, where is the necessity for again asking the Malabar District Board to open hospitals? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" It is only the Taluk Headquarters and municipal hospitals that are being provincialised, Sir, and that too only in instalments."

Construction of a road from Kunhimangalam to Ramanthali.

11-10 a.m. * 275 *Q*.—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any proposal to construct a road from Kunhimangalam to Ramanthali and Ettikulam in Payyanur Firka, North Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, at what stage the construction of the road stands now?

The Hon. Sri K. RAJARAM :—" Two road works, namely—

(1) Forming a road from Elimala Railway Station in Kunhimangalam amsam to Ettikulam via Kunnaru; and

(2) Forming Ramanthali village road connecting the village Ramanthali with Ettikulam are included in the Five-Year Plan of Post-War Road Development. The formation of the Ramanthali village road has almost been completed. The formation of the other road will be taken up in due course."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" Are the Government aware that even though the construction of a road from Kunhimangalam to Ramanthali and Ettikulam has been included in the Five-Year Plan of Post-war Road Development, it has not yet been taken up and may I know whether the Government will be pleased to expedite this work? "

The Hon. Sri K. RAJARAM :—" The work regarding the formation of the village road has been completed and the other road will be taken up soon."

Utilization of Handloom Cess Fund in Malabar.

* 276 *Q*.—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any suggestions for the utilization of the Handloom Cess Fund in Malabar district were put before Sri Lobo Prabhu, the Development Secretary, when he visited Cannanore recently by the representatives of the Chirakkal Taluk Handloom Workers' Union; and

(*b*) whether the Government have taken any steps to implement them?

The Hon. Dr. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The suggestions are under the consideration of the Government."